

Harford County Cultural Arts Board

Zoom Meeting

Monday, August 2, 2021

Present: Chuck Bowden (Chairperson), Jessica Cleaver (Coordinator), Marcia Bailey, Chris Depkin, Gigi Devanney, Emily Fadgen, Karen Heppen, Peter McCallum, Christina McLoughlin, Heidi Neff Chuffo, Bill Rothenbach, and Angie Sokolov.

Absent: Kelley Dilworth, Aurora Kahoe (legislative assistant for Councilman Chad Shrodes), Wendy Roberts, Elizabeth Stevens, and Erin Whipple

- The meeting was brought to order by Chuck Bowden at 6:09 p.m..
- The consent agenda was the first meeting topic addressed. This consisted of the following three items—the June 16, 2021 meeting minutes and the most current financial summary. Peter McCallum moved to approve both items and Bill Rothenbach provided the second. The consent agenda items were approved unanimously.
- The Harford Living Treasure Nominations were presented for Carol Deibel, Bill Gibson, C. John Sullivan Jr., and Robert Tibbs. Gigi Devanney moved to approve these four nominees and Peter McCallum provided the second. This motion was passed unanimously.
- The Board explored three topics that pertained to the Community Arts Development Grants. **First**, Scottfield and Theaterworks Live have addressed the compensation of any board members who provide services in their respective grant requests. Scottfield updated their operations requirements for the state of Maryland. Lights, Camera, Action has not yet responded to the Harford County Cultural Arts Board for providing notification of when specific events occur so they can be attended by Board members. **Second**, Board members endorsed that each funded organization provide a statement regarding a COVID-19 back-up proposal if activities can't be conducted in person. The Board realizes that these proposals must be fluid and are ever-evolving. **Third**, the Maryland State Arts Council has been approached by some counties to waive the grant matching requirement and has approved a waiver to this effect. Christina McLoughlin moved and Chris Depkin provided the second that the Harford County Cultural Arts Board waive the matching requirement for the grants it funds. This motion was approved.
- Jessica Cleaver reported that all but two 2021 grantees have submitted their final report.
- Three specific proposed revisions to guidelines for Arts in Education Grants were presented by Jessica Cleaver. First, the scope of grants would be expanded beyond pre-K to grade 12 parameters to include organizations that offer an educational component to the clients they serve. Second, qualified artists who reside outside of Maryland will be eligible to provide services as part of an organization's grant request. Third, the grant submission timeline will become more of a "rolling" format and approvals by the Board may occur by the 15th of each month. After considerable discussion, Peter McCallum moved and Bill Rothenbach provided the second that the Board approve only proposed revision one and three. This motion was

approved unanimously. Proposed revision three will be brought for further consideration at a future Board meeting.

- Jessica Cleaver recommended that any action that needs to be voted upon by the Board between today's meeting and October 4, 2021 will be conducted by email. The Board endorsed this request.
- Jessica Cleaver will conduct a long-range planning meeting on September 13, 2021. This is the first meeting in the process of formulating a three-year plan that is required by the Maryland State Arts Council. Harford County Cultural Arts Board members who are interested in participating in these planning meetings should express their interest to Jessica Cleaver. The proposed three-year will be presented to the entire Board for input and approval, and is due to the Maryland State Arts Council in January, 2022.
- The annual meeting of the Harford County Cultural Arts Board will be held on October 4, 2021. Bill Rothenbach, Gigi Devanney, and Heidi Neff Chuffo volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee to secure a proposed slate of Board officers for approval at this meeting.
- Chuck Bowden requested that all Board members contact Jessica Cleaver to state their preference regarding the format for future meetings. The formats being considered are virtual, hybrid, or in-person. Following this Board input, a decision will be made regarding how the next few meetings will be conducted. This format is subject to change based upon the progression of COVID-19 metrics and the Governor's directives.
- The next meeting of the full Harford County Cultural Arts Board will be held on October 4, 2021. This meeting will be held virtually unless the current COVID-19 restrictions are rescinded. If this occurs, meetings will be held at the Bel Air branch of the Harford County Public Library. Currently, there is no Board scheduled meeting for September, 2021.
- The meeting was formally concluded at 7:33 p.m. by Chuck Bowden.